

# **AGENDA**

## **CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

<http://www.catc.ca.gov>

### **Intercity Rail Roundtable**

**1:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

**December 6, 2002**

**Sacramento Area Council of Governments**

**3000 "S" Street, Board Room**

**Sacramento, California**

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#### **1. Welcome and Introductions – Chair McKenna**

#### **2. Purpose of Roundtable – Chair McKenna**

Gain a better understanding about intercity passenger rail and freight railroad operations.

Seek/create more opportunities between the State, Amtrak, BNSF and UP to improve service and public/private partnerships.

#### **3. General Overview:**

Department of Transportation – Jeff Morales, Director (invited)  
Department vision for intercity rail service in the State.

Amtrak – Gil Mallery, Vice President of Planning and Marketing  
Briefing on Amtrak and its role in the State's Intercity Rail Future.

BNSF – D.J. Mitchell, Director, Passenger Services  
BNSF perspective on freight and passenger rail service in the State.

UP – Jerry Wilmoth, General Manager for Network Infrastructure  
UP perspective on freight and passenger rail service in the State.

Commuter Rail – Metrolink, David Solow,  
Altamont Commuter Express, Stacey Mortensen (invited),  
Future of Commuter Rail.

#### **4. Intercity Rail Presentations**

**Caltrans – Warren Weber**

- Why is the State in the intercity rail passenger business?
- Rail line operations (passenger and freight) throughout the State.
- Capital improvements on rail lines. Where, how much and does the State pay for all of the improvements?
- Grade separations – funding, priority, and reason for fund source.

## **Amtrak – Gil Mallery**

- Review of Amtrak restructuring.
- Status of Amtrak funding.
- What are the problems, solutions? What can the State do to help?

## **Commuter – Metrolink – David Solow, ACE – Stacey Mortensen (invited)**

- Can the local commuter rail operators operate the intercity rail corridors?

## **5. Funding Overview**

### **Caltrans**

- How are intercity rail capital improvements and operational costs funded? Do railroads participate?
- How are operational costs split between the State and Amtrak?
- Status of the funding from the State PTA Account. Can the intercity rail maintain its current service?

### **BNSF and UP**

- How much do the railroads pay annually to maintain and improve their rail lines? What opportunities exist where the State and railroads can work together on rail service?

### **Amtrak**

- How does Amtrak pay annually for capital improvements? What is California's share?

## **6. Fare Box Recovery and Marketing (All)**

- How does California's intercity rail corridors' ridership and farebox recovery compare with other rail corridors, such as the Northeast Corridor?
- How does Caltrans determine pricing for its rail service?
- How do the commuter rail operators price their service?
- What should be the standards for ridership and farebox recovery?
- How can the railroads, the State, and Amtrak work to improve ridership and farebox?
- How can new riders be attracted? Is a marketing program the answer? If yes, what is the plan and how much should be devoted to marketing? Are there other answers?

## **7. Operational Issues (All)**

- How do we make freight and passenger rail operate efficiently while sharing infrastructure?
- What other initiatives should the State and the railroad consider taking?
- If Amtrak were to cease operations, would the railroads be interested in providing intercity rail passenger service?
- What can be done to improve cooperation on implementation of projects between Caltrans or other regional and local agencies with the railroads?

## **8. Wrap Up**